17th March 1955]

at 50 per cent of the cost price. The district staff comprising of Plant Protection Assistants and the Agricultural Demonstrators undertake intensive touring of the pest-affected areas and offer suitable advice to the farmers in controlling the borer infestation. The required pesticides are stocked at the departmental depots. If early steps are taken, the incidence is reduced before the stems are bored by the insect.

Experiments conducted and the results thereof.—Experiments have been conducted by the Government Entomologist, Coimbatore, with various insecticides against the paddy stemborer. The chemicals under trial are DDT, BHC, Folidol, Ekatox 20, Isodrin and Endrin.

Cheapest and the most effective treatment suggested to the ryots.—Spraying with 50 per cent wettable BHC at 1 lb. in 16 gallons of water or dusting a mixture of 5 per cent DDT and 10 per cent BHC at 20 lb. per acre followed by a liberal application of Ammonium Sulphate to push up the growth has been recommended to the ryots, as this will improve, to a great extent even a badly-affected crop.

APPENDIX II.

[*Vide* answer to starred question No. 1407 asked by Sri N. K. Palanisamy at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 17th March 1955, page 899 supra.]

Statement showing the action taken on the memorandum submitted to the Minister (Agriculture) on 10th August 1954 by the Lignite Mines Labour Union, Neyveli.

Representations. (1)	*Action taken.* (2)
(1) Fifteen labourers were victimised because they were members of the labour Union ;	(1) This is not correct. The fact is that five carpenters were stopped for want of work but subsequently reinstated when there was work. One blacksmith, one watchman and eight others were charge sheeted and were discharged after full enquiry. However they were reinstated to give them another chance to improve themselves.
(2) The administration had compeled Police to interfere with the activities of the Union and harass the wokers.	(2) This is absolutely without any foundation.
(3) Wages should be fixed with reference to the nature of work, previous experience, etc., and the minimum wages for workers in the quarry should be fixed at Rs. 2 per day plus dearness allowance.	(3) Wages are fixed with reference to the nature of the work and capacity and qualifications of the workers.
(4) The workers should be granted permanent status.	(4) The Project is purely temporary and grant of permanent status does not arise.
(5) Leave facilities should be granted to the workers.	(5) Leave is granted according to the standing rules framed for the Project.
(6) Free housing and medical assistance should be provided to the workers.	(6) Housing facilities, as far as possible are given. Free medical facilties have also been provided. There is a whole time doctor for the Project.